

(c) Two Hissa Survey Parties are at present put on measurement of encroachments on Government lands in Chickmagalur and Mudigere Taluks. Immediately after completion of that work the parties are proposed to be shifted to Chikodi and Bailhongal Offices.

Message from the Chairman L.C.—Announcement.

MADAM SPEAKER.—I have received the following Message from the Chairman Legislative Council,

As required by rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Karnataka Legislative Council, I send herewith the following Bills which have been agreed to by the Legislative Council, without amendments on 31st March, 1977.

NAMES OF THE BILLS

1. The Karnataka Home Guards (Amendment) Bill, 1977.
2. The Karnataka Private Nursing Homes (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 1977.
3. The Karnataka Rent Control (Amendment) Bill, 1977.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

- (i) re : *Alleged Victimisation of trade union leader of Mantons Ltd., Bangalore.*

SRI B. V. KAKKILAYA (Bantwal).—I call the attention of the Minister for Labour regarding labour situation arising out of the victimisation of a number of trade union office-bearers and active workers of Mantons Ltd., Bangalore.

SHRI C. N. PATIL (Minister for Labour).—I wish to make the following statement. The strength of the Labour force in this concern is 64. Since some time the workers have been resorting to tool-down strike now and then. Consequently the management suspended some employees who were stated to have been found instigating the other workers to strike work. In protest against the suspension 24 workers went on strike from 10-2-1977. Thereupon conciliation meetings were held and finally the striking workers called off the strike on 26-3-1977 and all the 24 workers who were on strike have been taken back to duty from 28-3-1977. The working of the factory is now normal.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಎನ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ನುಮಾರು 24 ಜನ ಕೆಂನಗಾರರು 10-2-1977 ರಿಂದ ಸ್ಟ್ರೈಕ್ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರು ಅವರನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೆ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಈಗ 10-2-1977 ರಿಂದ ಅವರು ಮಾಡಿದಂತಹ ಸ್ಟ್ರೈಕ್ ಪೀರಿಯಡ್ ಏನಿದೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಕೊಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕ್ರಮ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೀರಾ ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿ. ಎನ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್.—ಸ್ಟ್ರೈಕ್ ಪೀರಿಯಡ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಳ ಕೊಡಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

(ii) re : *Strike by K.E.B. Employees Nippani, Belgaum District.*

SRI B. B. SAYANAK.—I call the attention of the Minister of the State for Information to the hunger strike by the Karnataka Electricity Board Employees, Nippani, Belgaum District.

SHRI B. SUBBAYYA SHETTY (Minister of State for Information and Power).—I wish to make the following statement:

My attention has been called to the Hunger Strike resorted to by the Karnataka Electricity Board Employees in front of the Office of Nippani in Chikkodi Taluk of Belgaum District on 8th March 1977 for their Demands.

The Nippani Electricity Company (Private) Limited was taken over by the Karnataka Government as per the Provisions of the Karnataka Electricity Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1974 and as per the directions of the Government, the Karnataka Electricity Board is managing the affairs of the undertakings as an Agent on behalf of the Government. The Management of ex-licence challenged the acquisition of the above undertaking in the Writ Petition which has since been withdrawn on 30th March 1977.

When the undertaking was under the control of the Ex-licence, the Local Employees' Union i.e., Nippani Veej Kamgar Sabha, raised an Industrial dispute before the Labour Court, Hubli demanding the service benefits like enhanced pay scales and allowances etc., on the lines of Karnataka Electricity Board. The Labour Court ordered extending the pay scales as applicable to the employees of the Karnataka Electricity Board to the workmen of Nippani Electricity Company (Private) Limited.

Immediately, after the publication of the Award the Ex-Licensee intimated that they have filed a writ petition against the orders of the Labour Court Hubli and the High Court of Karnataka had admitted the Petition and has also granted stay. In view of the above, the Board has not extended the service benefits awarded by the Labour Court Hubli. In the meantime, the Employees of the Ex-licence Nippani Electricity Company (Private) Limited have resorted to an indefinite chain hunger strike.